

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 were previously pending in the application. By this Amendment, Claims 2-3, 11-12, 16-17 and 21 are currently amended, Claims 4-10, 13-15 and 18-20 remain unchanged, and Claim 1 is cancelled. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that Claims 2-11, 14-15 and 19-20 include allowable subject matter.

Allowable original Claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim. Therefore, newly-independent Claim 2 is allowable. Dependent Claims 3-11 depend from independent Claim 2 and are allowable for the same and other reasons.

Claims 1, 12-13, 16-18 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Paris (US 2,417,838). Claims 12, 16, 17 and 21 have been amended to clarify that the air-deflecting means is disposed at the at least one end and directs the flow direction of the airflow on a surface of the clothing item. Paris does not disclose an apparatus for pressing items of clothing comprising, among other things, an air-deflecting means disposed at the at least one end and directing the flow direction of the airflow on a surface of the clothing item. Therefore, Paris does not disclose all the elements recited in Claims 12, 16, 17 and 21.

For these and other reasons, Paris does not anticipate Claims 12, 16, 17 and 21, and withdrawal of the corresponding rejections is respectfully requested. Claims 13-15 depend from Claim 12 and should be allowed for the same reasons and also because they recite additional patentable subject matter. Claims 18-20 depend from Claim 17 and should be allowed for the same reasons and also because they recite additional patentable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of Claims 2-21 are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. Please note that Applicants have changed representation and are now represented by new counsel. The formal Revocation of Power of Attorney / New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address documents will be forthcoming.

Craig J. Loest

Name of Attorney Signing under 37 CFR 1.34

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Craig J. Loest", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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